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SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 1916.

Montague for Supreme Bench

PRESIDENT WILSON would recognize legal talents of high order and reward long and distinguished service should he appoint Congressman Andrew Jackson Montague, of this district, to the bench of the United States Supreme Court. Mr. Montague's qualifications are manifest, and he has the endorsement of the recognized leaders of the Richmond bar. His appointment would preserve to the South its minority representation on the bench of the great tribunal, which an other Virginia lawyer first made illustrious.

A Washington dispatch says that the eyes of the politicians are on Indiana. Why should Indiana need so much watching?

"Available Timber"

ILLINOIS Republicans, so we are advised in a Chicago dispatch, are boasting Judge Elbert H. Gary, head of the steel trust, for the party's presidential nomination. He is "available timber" and "would make a good President" in the view of those who are making themselves responsible for this tentative candidacy.

Whether Judge Gary "would make a good President" is a question entirely academic, for there is not a chance in ten thousand that he will be put to the test. Even at that, however, he is just as "available timber" as some of the other sticks the Republicans now display—including the Big Stick.

While the North and South American republics are trying to get together, General Goethals should see to it that the slide in the Canal Zone stays put.

Real Punishment

IT is to be hoped that before the United States consents to accept apologies from Germany or Austria-Hungary—whatever be the guilty nation for the sinking of the Perseus and the wanton murder of passenger and crew, it will have had assurances that the punishment to be meted out to the submarine commander is to be real punishment. That is the gist of the whole matter.

To approve a punishment that consists of mild rebuke or relief from duty is farcical. The bloodthirsty of both the German and Austrian admiralties already has been displayed, in words as well as in deeds, and if their governments really mean to restrain it, a reprimand will not suffice. The process of murder followed by apology, followed by murder, followed by apology, and so on ad infinitum, ad nauseam, begins to grow not a little wearisome. There ought to be an end of it.

A German professor has discovered a way to feed old newspapers to cows. This may increase the circulation of some of the publications over there, but it won't make the cows give milk.

Any Adventure of To-Day

IN the good old days of the dime novel, that beloved and revered companion of so many generations of youth, feather-brained boys were in the habit of running off West to kill Indians. It was the fashion of the dear old dime novel to slay myriads of Indians in a few pages. In fact, the consumption of Indians in the dime novel was so great that all the Indians born into the world since the first Indian discovered America would not have equaled the total number destroyed in a year's output of novels. It was a delicious, delicious dream of boyhood to be part in this noble slaying.

But alas! the Indian has become civilized; he plays football with the paleface instead of scalping him, and he roasts instead of eating the chow-chow. Therefore he has vanished from romance. But romance itself never dies and never can die so long as there is youth. The dime novel will soon shrink in its honored cradle; its successor, the sensational moving-picture show, now invites boyhood to dream of daring. Ladys no longer run away from home to fight Indians, but they seek to reproduce the charming train robberies and love intrigues of the wrong type of moving-picture. It will ever be thus. When the moving picture men shall have grown stale and senile, new inventions will inspire youth to new, unimagined adventures.

A Columbia scientist says "movies" may be used as a cure for the "dopey" habit. There are "movies" now, some are plays, which come惊异ingly near mimicing the man who sees them call for "dope."

Governor Whitman Takes a Hand

W HATEVER may be the laws in the system inaugurated at Sing Sing by Thomas Mott Osborne and others, have been dwelt on chiefly by the members of the odd order. It seems well settled that conditions in that prison have improved greatly under Mr. Osborne's administration. It has been charged from the first, however, that John B. Riley, State Superintendent of Prisons, has been after the veritable official head. Recently he secured at least a temporary victory by securing an indictment against Mr. Osborne, who therupon obtained an indefinite leave of absence for the purpose of defending himself against the charges.

In his stead was appointed Dr. George W. Irchway, ex-dean of Columbia Law School, so indorsed Mr. Osborne's views on prison management, and who was expected to carry

on his plans. Then the State Superintendent of Prisons issued an order transferring more than sixty convicts from Sing Sing to Dannemora, a transfer amounting to a punishment. Among these were many officers of the Mutual Welfare League, founded by Mr. Osborne, whose presence, according to Governor Whitman, was "necessary, under present conditions, for the proper administration of the affairs of the prison."

Whereupon the Governor, pursuing the simple and direct course, asked for the resignation of State Superintendent of Prisons. It is well for the people of New York in general and for the prisoners in Sing Sing and Thomas Mott Osborne in particular that the Governor of New York is a strong man, influenced by considerations of public welfare, as opposed to political expediency.

Charles Welburne Knap, who on January 1 became treasurer of the New York Times Company, died at his post in the Times Building. If Mr. Knap had been asked to select the way in which he preferred death, he would have chosen that which came to him. He was in love with his work every waking hour of his life. To die at one's post is the fitting culmination of life.

Franchises by Popular Vote

IN principle, the charter amendment proposed by Leon Wallerstein, and now approved by the Council Charter-Change Committee, has everything to commend it. As a general proposition, public franchises of the first importance should not be granted save with the voters' endorsement, given at the polls. In practice, however, unless the plan be modified, considerable inconveniences and unnecessary delays may be anticipated.

Richmond is now confronted with an application for the sort of franchise that ought to be made the subject of a popular referendum. Whether the existing franchises of the Virginia Railway and Power Company shall be merged and extended for thirty years from the date of the new grant is a question of broad public policy, with the right decision of which every citizen is concerned intimately. Every citizen is concerned also with the payment that is to be made for this dedication of public easements to private capital. The voters should have an opportunity to pass on applications of this character.

But suppose there should arise in the future, as unquestionably there will arise, a demand in some suburban section for the extension for a block or two of the company's lines. Suppose that the property owners immediately affected clamor for the improvement and that the company, recognizing the justice of the demand, is prepared to provide it. Or suppose that changed conditions make rerouting advisable, or even essential to adequate service. Why, in any of these cases, should it be necessary to submit the matter to popular vote? Does any experience indicate that these are the sort of problems with which the popular intelligence is best qualified to deal?

The truth is, as a moment's reflection will convince any one capable of reflection, that the routing of a system of surface transportation in a modern city is a highly complicated proposition, requiring the services of experts. The layman—even the educated layman—knows little about it. What most of us desire is that the sections in which we live or do business shall be provided with the maximum of transportation facilities and convenience, and our interest in the troubles of other sections usually is very casual indeed.

The results of this selfish, but entirely natural, viewpoint are perceptible in almost every American community. A mistaken theory of the advantages of competition as applied to urban transportation has combined with neighborhood insistence on special privileges to make a map of the car lines a sort of ghastly joke. Some sections are over-supplied with facilities, while others are neglected entirely. Luck or foolish competition or preposterous political influence has thrown sound judgment out of the window. Street railway companies in many cities are not in a position to give service where it is needed because they are required to give it where it is not needed.

These difficulties, it is to be apprehended, will not be lessened by the adoption of Mr. Wallerstein's amendment, unless it be carefully safeguarded.

Any Adventure of To-Day

PERHAPS King Peter of Serbia went to Greece to see what Greece had done with the treaty he made to help Serbia if the latter had any trouble.

Church Unity

ONE religious movement of to-day is so far-reaching in its intent, and is so vital to the welfare of the nation and of the world, that it is the duty of the secular press to consider and discuss it. This is the propaganda for church unity, long discussed and formally launched by the Church Unity Conference on Wednesday in New York.

But alas! the Church has become civilized; he plays football with the paleface instead of scalping him, and he roasts instead of eating the chow-chow. Therefore he has vanished from romance. But romance itself never dies and never can die so long as there is youth. The dime novel will soon shrink in its honored cradle; its successor, the sensational moving-picture show, now invites boyhood to dream of daring. Ladys no longer run away from home to fight Indians, but they seek to reproduce the charming train robberies and love intrigues of the wrong type of moving-picture. It will ever be thus. When the moving picture men are not in a position to give service where it is needed because they are required to give it where it is not needed.

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SEEN ON THE SIDE**WINTER IN VIRGINIA**

Glory on the hilltop.
Beauty in the dell.
Shipping airs that stir us.
To do all things well;
Girls with cheeks like roses,
Eyes that brightly shine;
Winter in Virginia—
My but isn't it fine!

Skies of radiant azure.
That make your soul to sing;
Foxhounds courting madly;
The partridge on the wing;
Swiftflock hams and turkey;
When you're asked to dine;
Winter in Virginia—
Oh! but winter's fine!

No care to plague you.
Homes all opened wide—
Hearts, too, when you know them—
Joy on every side;
Applebuds and toddies;
Naught for which to pine;
Winter in Virginia—
Lord! but ain't it fine!

The Pessimist Says:

Some men are born foolish, some achieve folly, and some inherit the wise dictates of the United States Senate.

Her Recantation.

They were married, but it was a long time ago as the sequel will show.

"Don't tell your troubles to me," she said, as he strolled.

"Then I'll tell you one of my jokes," he answered.

"Go ahead and relate your grievances."

"You were crazy to get me," she screamed after the morning set-to.

"That's what my friends said, but I didn't believe it until afterwards," replied the brute.

How About This One?

Dear Seen on the Side: When I was a boy a man called to see my father. When he was leaving he asked father to come to see him when he came to the city. Father asked him how he would find the place. The man said: "It has a cabana and a mortgage on it." Is this in the class of jokes that Were?—RECKS.

RECKS. It was one of Petroleum V. Nasby's first.

"You will be sorry for this when you have gone," she cried, after her nest squab.

"If I am I'll be glad of it," he retorted.

"Did you say sorry?"

Youth Triumphant.

"Did you fall again at school to-day?" asked the stern parent of little Willie.

"I did not," said the youngster proudly.

"That's gratifying. How did you manage to attain your success?"

"Teacher forgot to bring her glasses, and couldn't see me, so she never thought to call on me!"

If you have been on earth about seventy years, you may remember the old man who in shaving always rattled his razor in an old oyster can filled with hot water before he began scraping.

The New Freedom.

"Do you always listen to what your husband has to say?"

"Always—but, of course, I never feel called on to pay any attention to it."

Shakespeare for Everybody.

For the waiting "like as the waves make towards the polished shore, so do our minutes hasten to their end," Southerners, by

the trusting—"God shall be my hope, my stay, my shield and lantern to my feet"—Henry VI, Part II.

For the merciful—"We do pray for mercy, and that same prayer doth teach us all to render the deeds of mercy"—Merchant of Venice, by

Pity the Guide.

The finale of Capitol Square confessed to Newcomer: "This mornin' I was feelin' uncommonly weak, so I started from the abode for a meander. I looked back at my home, remiss, softlike,

speakin' as follows: 'I'm off, I say.'

"I know it," she sez. "You always wuz."

She took a train set for me an' fool that I am, I left at her bait."

It's Tu-Brute?

when Julius Caesar felt that thrust

His courage, Brutus, dealt him,

to kill once the Fates unjust,

Had started out to peilt him.

Though enemies his number got,

He was not worried, but you

must understand would hurt a lot

To have an old pal cut you.

Gossip From "Down Home"

Here are a few remarks by the Avery Brothers, the noted and no mean countrymen. The reason they say gods do not tell the soil. From to be boundless of course to be too boundless of potatoes, known to weigh pounds of cabbage, to be boundless of rice and wheat eat easily, to be boundless of beans in this country, and other truck in proportion, if we will eat it by the sweat of our brow."

They know everything in North Carolina, including peanuts. The Asheboro Courier says:

"The growing of peanuts is receiving considerable attention in certain sections of Moore County.

It has been found that the few trees here bear remarkably well and that with the good care being taken the market is great indeed.

It is to be hoped that the new paper-shell variety will prove a success.

—ROBERT S. WHERRY, Richmond, January 7, 1916.

The Voice of the People**Burst Out.**

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

"Sir—I have been very much annoyed of late at some of our Richmond papers working overtime in trying to get some 'good' man to run against you for Mayor of our city.

"One day, in the Richmond Times, Mr. George Hirschberg and Emanuel all out for the other."

Captain George Hirschberg has made the best mark that our friends of Richmond has ever written about him, and I hope he will be remembered.

Mr. Graves, in his steadfast endurance and courage, to which he replied with all sincerity: "Yes, General, I stuck to the army to the last, but if you had a greater coward than I was, you ought to have had a greater lion than I was."

He was glad to learn that I was in the steamer and asked if I could in any way ascertain the date of it, as he had not been able to find any letter or data of any kind by which he could fix the date, so that he was not sure whether or not he had put the steamer on the right day or not.

He was greatly interested to learn that he was glad to learn that I was in the steamer and asked if I could in any way ascertain the date of